#### SECOND REGULAR SESSION

## **HOUSE BILL NO. 1461**

### 91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES SEIGFREID, LONG, CARNAHAN, KREIDER, BARTELSMEYER, FARNEN, HARDING, ABEL, BOYKINS (Co-sponsors), RELFORD, DAVIS, HAMPTON, MOORE, QUINN, ROARK AND TOWNLEY.

Read 1st time January 15, 2002, and 1000 copies ordered printed.

TED WEDEL, Chief Clerk

3589L.01I

#### **AN ACT**

To repeal sections 115.013, 115.081, 115.083, 115.087, 115.089, 115.095, 115.097, 115.099, 115.123, 115.127, 115.151, 115.157, 115.160, 115.162, 115.163, 115.225, 115.233, 115.237, 115.277, 115.279, 115.283, 115.291, 115.409, 115.417, 115.433, 115.493, and 115.613, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof thirty-two new sections relating to elections.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 115.013, 115.081, 115.083, 115.087, 115.089, 115.095, 115.097,

- 2 115.099, 115.123, 115.127, 115.151, 115.157, 115.160, 115.162, 115.163, 115.225, 115.233,
- 3 115.237, 115.277, 115.279, 115.283, 115.291, 115.409, 115.417, 115.433, 115.493, and 115.613,
- 4 RSMo, are repealed and thirty-two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections
- 5 115.013, 115.074, 115.081, 115.087, 115.089, 115.095, 115.097, 115.099, 115.100, 115.102,
- 6 115.123, 115.126, 115.127, 115.151, 115.157, 115.160, 115.162, 115.163, 115.225, 115.233,
- 115.237, 115.277, 115.279, 115.283, 115.291, 115.409, 115.417, 115.420, 115.433, 115.493,
- 115.613, and 115.645, to read as follows:

115.013. As used in this chapter, unless the context clearly implies otherwise, the

- following terms mean:
- 3 (1) "Automatic tabulating equipment", the apparatus necessary to examine and
- automatically count votes, and the data processing machines which are used for counting votes
- and tabulating results;

6

- (2) "Ballot", the ballot card [or], paper ballot, or ballot designed for use with a
- computerized voting system on which each voter may cast all votes to which he or she is

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

entitled at an election;

11

12

15

16

18

19

20

21

23

24

25

26

27

29

30 31

32

33

34

35

38

39

40

- 9 (3) "Ballot card", a ballot which is voted by making a punch or sensor mark which can be tabulated by automatic tabulating equipment; 10
  - (4) "Ballot label", the card, paper, booklet, page or other material containing the names of all offices and candidates and statements of all questions to be voted on;
- 13 (5) "Counting location", a location selected by the election authority for the automatic 14 processing or counting, or both, of ballots;
  - (6) "County", any one of the several counties of this state or the city of St. Louis;
- (7) "Disqualified", a determination made by a court of competent jurisdiction, the Missouri ethics commission, an election authority or any other body authorized by law to make 17 such a determination that a candidate is ineligible to hold office or not entitled to be voted on for office;
  - (8) "District", an area within the state or within a political subdivision of the state from which a person is elected to represent the area on a policy-making body with representatives of other areas in the state or political subdivision;
  - (9) "Electronic voting system", a system of casting votes by use of marking devices, and counting votes by use of automatic tabulating or data processing equipment, and including computerized voting systems;
  - (10) "Established political party" for the state, a political party which, at either of the last two general elections, polled for its candidate for any statewide office, more than two percent of the entire vote cast for the office. "Established political party" for any district or political subdivision shall mean a political party which polled more than two percent of the entire vote cast at either of the last two elections in which the district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers or representatives to serve its area;
  - (11) "Federal office", the office of presidential elector, United States senator, or representative in Congress;
  - (12) "Independent", a candidate who is not a candidate of any political party and who is running for an office for which party candidates may run;
- (13) "Major political party", the political party whose candidates received the highest or 36 37 second highest number of votes at the last general election;
  - (14) "Marking device", either an apparatus in which ballots are inserted and voted by use of a punch apparatus, or any approved device for marking paper ballots with ink or other substance which will enable the votes to be counted by automatic tabulating equipment;
- 41 (15) "New party", any political group which has filed a valid petition and is entitled to place its list of candidates on the ballot at the next general or special election; 42
- 43 (16) "Nonpartisan", a candidate who is not a candidate of any political party and who is

45

48

49

52

53

54

55

56

57

58 59

60

61 62

63

64

6

11

12

13

44 running for an office for which party candidates may not run;

- (17) "Political party", any established political party and any new party;
- 46 (18) "Political subdivision", a county, city, town, village, or township of a township organization county;
  - (19) "Polling place", the voting place designated for all voters residing in one or more precincts for any election;
- 50 (20) "Precincts", the geographical areas into which the election authority divides its jurisdiction for the purpose of conducting elections;
  - (21) "Public office", any office established by constitution, statute or charter and any employment under the United States, the state of Missouri, or any political subdivision or special district, but does not include any office in the reserve forces or the national guard or the office of notary public;
    - (22) "Question", any measure on the ballot which can be voted "YES" or "NO";
  - (23) "Relative within the second degree by consanguinity or affinity", a spouse, each grandparent, parent, brother, sister, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle, child and grandchild of a person;
  - (24) "Special district", any school district, water district, fire protection district, hospital district, health center, nursing district, or other districts with taxing authority, or other district formed pursuant to the laws of Missouri to provide limited, specific services;
  - (25) "Special election", elections called by any school district, water district, fire protection district, or other district formed pursuant to the laws of Missouri to provide limited, specific services; and
- 65 (26) "Voting district", the one or more precincts within which all voters vote at a single polling place for any election.
- 115.074. 1. Subject to appropriation from general revenue funds, the secretary of state shall administer a grant program in an amount not to exceed five million dollars annually for the purposes of providing funds to election authorities to upgrade or improve the voting process or equipment. Such funding shall be in the form of matching grants. The secretary of state may promulgate rules to effectuate the provisions of this section.
  - 2. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028, RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2002, shall be invalid and void.

115.081. 1. Each election authority shall appoint [at least four] election judges for each polling place within its jurisdiction **in accordance with the provisions of this section**. [If the expected voter turnout at a polling place indicates that four judges may be insufficient, the election authority may appoint an even number of additional judges for the polling place. One-half of the judges at each polling place shall be members of one major political party, and one-half of the judges at each polling place shall be members of the other major political party.]

- 2. In a primary or general election, the election authority shall appoint at least two judges from each major political party to serve at each polling place. No major political party shall have a majority of the judges at any polling place. No established party or judges who do not claim a political affiliation shall have a greater number of judges at any polling place than any major political party.
- 3. In any election that is not a primary or general election, the election authority shall appoint at least one judge from each major political party to serve at each polling place. No major political party shall have a majority of the judges at any polling place. No established party or judges who do not claim a political affiliation shall have a greater number of judges at any polling place than any major political party.
- **4.** The election authority shall designate two of the judges appointed for each polling place, one from each major political party, as supervisory judges. Supervisory judges shall be responsible for the return of election supplies from the polling place to the election authority and shall have any additional duties prescribed by the election authority.
- [3.] **5.** Election judges may be employed to serve for the first half or last half of any election day. Such judges shall be paid one-half the regular rate of pay. If part-time judges are employed, the election authority shall employ such judges and shall see that a sufficient number for each period are present at all times so as to have the proper total number of judges present at each polling place throughout each election day. The election authority shall require that at each polling place at least one election judge from each political party serve a full day and that at all times during the day there be an equal number of election judges from each political party.
- 6. An election authority may appoint additional election judges representing other established political parties and additional election judges who do not claim a political affiliation. Any question which requires a decision by the majority of judges shall only be made by the judges from the major political parties.

[115.083. Any election authority may appoint an even number of additional judges for use as needed on election day. One-half of such judges shall be members of one major political party, and one-half of such judges shall be members of the other major political party.]

115.087. **1.** In each county which does not have a board of election commissioners, the election judges shall be selected from lists provided by the county committee of each major

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

7

political party or as authorized pursuant to section 115.081. Not later than December tenth in each year in which county committeemen are elected, the county committee of each major political party shall submit to the county clerk a list of persons qualified to serve as election judges in double the number required to hold a general election in the county. [Not later than February tenth in each year immediately following the year in which county committeemen are elected, each] For each election the county clerk shall select and appoint the number of judges required to hold [a general] the election [in his county, taking one-half of the judges from each 10 of the lists]. If a county committee fails to present the prescribed number of names of qualified persons by the time prescribed, the county clerk may select and appoint the number of judges 11 provided by law [for the county committee's party]. If the county clerk deems any person on a 12 list to be unqualified, [he] the clerk may request the county committee which submitted the list to furnish another name. [The election judges shall be appointed for a term ending on February 14 15 tenth in the year immediately following the year in which county committeemen are next elected and until their successors are appointed and qualified.] 16

- 2. The state chairperson of each established political party may, in jurisdictions where no county committee exists and where the county clerk is the election authority, submit a list of persons qualified to serve as election judges to the county clerk. The county clerk may select and appoint additional judges from such list pursuant to section 115.081.
- 3. County clerks may compile a list of persons who claim no political affiliation and who volunteer to be election judges. A county clerk may select and appoint additional judges from such list pursuant to section 115.081.

115.089. Each board of election commissioners shall have authority to appoint election judges for individual elections, or for a term coincident with the term of the board and until the judges' successors are appointed and qualified. The board may ask the county committee of each 4 major political party to submit a list of persons qualified to serve as election judges and may select and appoint judges from the lists. The board may compile a list of persons who claim no political affiliation and who volunteer to be election judges and may select and appoint judges from the list.

115.095. If any judge fails to act or to appear by the time fixed by law for the opening of the polls, the election authority shall be notified immediately by an election judge. The election authority or the election judges present in the polling place shall appoint another judge from the same political party as the judge failing to act or to appear. If the election judges elect a qualified temporary judge, [he] such judge shall have full authority to act as judge for the election, except that [he] such judge may be removed at any time by the election authority and replaced with another qualified judge from the same political party as the removed judge. Any judge selected pursuant to this section shall be selected to ensure that no political party

3

7 8

9

10 11

12

13

14

5 6

7

9 shall have a majority of judges at any polling place and that each major political party has 10 at least one judge serving at the polling place.

115.097. No election judge shall be absent from the polls for more than one hour during the hours the polls are open on election day. No election judge shall be absent from the polls before 9:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m. on election day. No more than one judge from the same major political party shall be absent from the polls at the same time on election day.

115.099. Each election authority shall have authority to direct judges in their duties and to compel compliance with the law. Each election authority may substitute judges at his discretion on election day. Each election authority shall also have authority at any time to remove any judge for good cause and to replace [him] the judge with a qualified person from the same political party as the removed judge. Any judge selected pursuant to this section shall be selected to ensure that no political party shall have a majority of judges at any polling place and that each major political party has at least one judge serving at the polling place.

115.100. 1. An employer shall not terminate, discipline, threaten, or take adverse actions against an employee based on the employee's service as an election judge.

- 2. An employee who is appointed to serve as an election judge may, on election day, be absent from his or her employment for the period of time that the election authority requires the employee to serve as election judge. Employees must notify employers at least seven days prior to an election that they will be absent from work on election day due to service as an election judge.
- 3. An employee discharged in violation of this section may bring a civil action against the employer within ninety days of discharge for recovery of lost wages and other damages caused by the violation and for an order directing reinstatement of the employee. If the employee prevails, the employee shall be entitled to receive reasonable attorney's fees and costs.
- 4. The provisions of this section shall apply only to employers of more than fifty employees.
- 115.102. 1. Subject to appropriation from general revenue funds, the secretary of state shall administer a grant program for the purpose of increasing the compensation of election judges. Such funding shall be in the form of matching grants, and shall be made available to election authorities contingent upon the election authority increasing the compensation of election judges to an amount not less than seven dollars per hour. The secretary of state may promulgate rules to effectuate the provisions of this section.
- 2. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if

15

16

17

18 19

20

2122

23

24

25

2627

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

5

7

9 it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if 10 applicable, section 536.028, RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable 11 and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo, 12 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently 13 held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or 14 adopted after August 28, 2002, shall be invalid and void.

- 115.123. 1. All public elections shall be held on Tuesday. Except as provided in subsections 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this section, and section 247.180, RSMo, all public elections shall be held on the general election day, the primary election day, the general municipal election day, the first Tuesday after the first Monday in February or November, or on another day expressly provided by city or county charter.
- 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 1 of this section, an election for a presidential primary held pursuant to sections 115.755 to 115.785 shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March of each presidential election year.
- 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 1 of this section, school districts may hold elections [on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June and] in nonprimary years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in August, and municipalities may hold elections in nonprimary years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in August.
- 4. The following elections shall be exempt from the provisions of subsection 1 of this section:
  - (1) Bond elections necessitated by fire, vandalism or natural disaster;
  - (2) Elections for which ownership of real property is required by law for voting; and
    - (3) Special elections to fill vacancies and to decide tie votes or election contests.
- 5. No city or county shall adopt a charter or charter amendment which calls for elections to be held on dates other than those established in subsection 1 of this section.
- 6. Nothing in this section prohibits a charter city or county from having its primary election in March if the charter provided for a March primary before August 28, 1999.
- 7. Nothing in this section shall prohibit elections held pursuant to section 65.600, RSMo, but no other issues shall be on the March ballot except pursuant to this chapter.
  - 115.126. 1. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, election authorities shall establish an advance voting period when eligible registered voters may vote before any presidential election at the office of the election authority and up to four other polling places designated by and under the control of the election authority. The permissible advance voting period shall begin fourteen days prior to such election and end at 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday before the day of such election.
    - 2. Election authorities shall, pursuant to subsection 1 of this section, establish the

8 hours and locations for advance voting and shall post this information at the election 9 authority's office and in such other locations as the election authority may select.

- 3. Except as provided in this section, advance voting procedures shall be conducted pursuant to sections 115.407 to 115.445. The secretary of state shall design the necessary application for use in an advance voting program pursuant to this section. Not later than August first of each year in which there is a presidential election each election authority shall submit to the secretary of state a plan and funding request to implement the provisions of this section. The secretary of state shall submit a request for funding to the governor based on such plans approved by the secretary of state and funding requests submitted. If a sufficient sum is appropriated to finance the plan and to pay the state's other financial obligations to the election authorities pursuant to this chapter, including its proportional share of costs for primary and general elections, an advance voting program shall be implemented for the state at the presidential elections held during that fiscal year. No advance voting or other absentee voting program authorized pursuant to this section shall occur when the state has failed to appropriate funds to pay its obligations. The secretary of state shall assist election authorities in developing a plan for the implementation of an advance voting program.
- 4. Before the precinct registers are delivered to the polling places for an election, the election authority shall record in the precinct registers the names of all voters who have submitted an advance voting ballot. The election judge shall not allow any person who has voted an advance voting ballot in the election to vote at the polls on election day. If it is determined that any voter submitted an advance voting ballot and voted at the polls on election day:
- (1) Such person, having voted more than once, is guilty of a class one election offense pursuant to subdivision (2) of section 115.631;
- (2) The election authority shall certify that fact and the name of the voter to the verification board. Such certificate shall be included with the abstracts drawn by the verification board.
- 115.127. 1. Except as provided in subsection 4 of this section, upon receipt of notice of a special election to fill a vacancy submitted pursuant to section 115.125, the election authority shall cause legal notice of the special election to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in its jurisdiction. The notice shall include the name of the officer or agency calling the election, the date and time of the election, the name of the office to be filled and the date by which candidates must be selected or filed for the office. Within one week prior to each special election to fill a vacancy held in its jurisdiction, the election authority shall cause legal notice of the election to be published in two newspapers of different political faith and general circulation

9 in the jurisdiction. The legal notice shall include the date and time of the election, the name of 10 the officer or agency calling the election and a sample ballot. If there is only one newspaper of 11 general circulation in the jurisdiction, the notice shall be published in the newspaper within one 12 week prior to the election. If there are two or more newspapers of general circulation in the 13 jurisdiction, but no two of opposite political faith, the notice shall be published in any two of the 14 newspapers within one week prior to the election.

- 2. Except as provided in subsections 1 and 4 of this section and in sections 115.521, 115.549 and 115.593, the election authority shall cause legal notice of each election held in its jurisdiction to be published. The notice shall be published in two newspapers of different political faith and qualified pursuant to chapter 493, RSMo, which are published within the bounds of the area holding the election. If there is only one so qualified newspaper, then notice shall be published in only one newspaper. If there is no newspaper published within the bounds of the election area, then the notice shall be published in two qualified newspapers of different political faith serving the area. Notice shall be published twice, the first publication occurring in the second week prior to the election, and the second publication occurring within one week prior to the election. Each such legal notice shall include the date and time of the election, the name of the officer or agency calling the election and a sample ballot; and, unless notice has been given as provided by section 115.129, the second publication of notice of the election shall include the location of polling places. The election authority may provide any additional notice of the election it deems desirable.
- 3. The election authority shall print the official ballot as the same appears on the sample ballot, and no candidate's name or ballot issue which appears on the sample ballot or official printed ballot shall be stricken or removed from the ballot except on death of a candidate or by court order.
- 4. In lieu of causing legal notice to be published in accordance with any of the provisions of this chapter, the election authority in jurisdictions which have less than five hundred registered voters and in which no newspaper qualified pursuant to chapter 493, RSMo, is published, may cause legal notice to be mailed during the second week prior to the election, by first class mail, to each registered voter at [his] **the voter's** voting address. All such legal notices shall include the date and time of the election, the location of the polling place, the name of the officer or agency calling the election and a sample ballot.
- 5. In lieu of causing legal notice to be published twice in accordance with any of the provisions of this chapter, the election authority may cause legal notice to be mailed during the second week prior to the election, by first class mail, to each registered voter at the voter's voting address and cause legal notice to be published once within one week before the election. All such legal notices shall include the date and time of the election, the

# location of the polling place, the name of the officer or agency calling the election and a sample ballot.

- **6.** If the opening date for filing a declaration of candidacy for any office in a political subdivision or special district is not required by law or charter, the opening filing date shall be 8:00 a.m., the fifteenth Tuesday prior to the election. If the closing date for filing a declaration of candidacy for any office in a political subdivision or special district is not required by law or charter, the closing filing date shall be 5:00 p.m., the eleventh Tuesday prior to the election. The political subdivision or special district calling an election shall, before the fifteenth Tuesday prior to any election at which offices are to be filled, notify the general public of the opening filing date, the office or offices to be filled, the proper place for filing and the closing filing date of the election. Such notification may be accomplished by legal notice published in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the political subdivision or special district.
- [6.] **7.** Except as provided for in sections 115.247 and 115.359, if there is no additional cost for the printing or reprinting of ballots or if the candidate agrees to pay any printing or reprinting costs, a candidate who has filed for an office or who has been duly nominated for an office, may, at any time after the certification required in section 115.125 but no later than 5:00 p.m. on the sixth Tuesday before the election, withdraw as a candidate pursuant to a court order, which, except for good cause shown by the election authority in opposition thereto, shall be freely given upon application by the candidate to the circuit court of the area of such candidate's residence.
- 115.151. 1. Each qualified applicant who appears before the election authority shall be deemed registered as of the time the applicant's completed, signed and sworn registration application is witnessed by the election authority or deputy registration official.
- 2. Each applicant who registers by mail shall be deemed to be registered as of the date the application is postmarked, if such application is accepted and not rejected by the election authority and the verification notice required pursuant to section 115.155 is not returned as undeliverable by the postal service.
- 3. Each applicant who registers at a voter registration agency or the division of motor vehicle and drivers licensing of the department of revenue shall be deemed to be registered as of the date the application is signed by the applicant, if such application is accepted and not rejected by the election authority and the verification notice required pursuant to section 115.155 is not returned as undeliverable by the postal service. Voter registration agencies and the division of motor vehicle and driver licensing of the department of revenue shall transmit voter registration application forms to the appropriate election authority not later than five business days after the form is completed by the applicant.
  - 115.157. 1. The election authority may place all information on any registration cards

in computerized form in accordance with subsection 2 of section 115.158. No election authority or secretary of state shall furnish to any member of the public electronic media or printout showing any registration information, except as provided in this section. Except as provided in subsection 2 of this section, the election authority or secretary of state shall make available electronic media or printouts showing unique voter identification numbers, voters' names, dates of birth, addresses, townships or wards, and precincts. Electronic data shall be maintained in at 8 least the following separate fields: 9 (1) Voter identification number; 10 (2) First name; 11 (3) Middle initial; 12 (4) Last name: 13 (5) Suffix; 14 (6) Street number; 15 (7) Street direction;

- 16 (8) Street name:
- 17 (9) Street suffix;
- (10) Apartment number; 18
- 19 (11) City;
- 20 (12) State;
- 21 (13) Zip code;
- 22 (14) Township;
- 23 (15) Ward:
- 24 (16) Precinct;
- 25 (17) Senatorial district;
- 26 (18) Representative district;
- 27 (19) Congressional district.

28 29

30

31

32

33

35 36

37

All election authorities shall enter voter history in their computerized registration systems and shall, not more than six months after the election, forward such data to the centralized voter registration system established in section 115.158. Except as provided in subsection 2 of this section, the election authority shall also furnish, for a fee, electronic media or a printout showing the names, dates of birth and addresses of voters, or any part thereof, within the jurisdiction of the election authority who voted in any specific election, including primary elections, by township, ward or precinct, provided that nothing in this chapter shall require such voter information to be released to the public over the Internet. The amount of fees charged for information provided in this section shall be established pursuant to chapter 610, RSMo. All

46

47

48

49

50 51

52

53

54 55

5657

58 59

60

61 62

64

65

66 67

68

3 4

5

revenues collected by the secretary of state pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the secretary of state's technology trust fund account established pursuant to section 28.160, RSMo. In even-numbered years, each election authority shall, upon request, supply the voter registration list for its jurisdiction to all candidates and party committees for a charge established pursuant to chapter 610, RSMo. Except as provided in subsection 2 of this section, all election authorities shall make the information described in this section available pursuant to chapter 610, RSMo. Any election authority who fails to comply with the requirements of this section shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 610, RSMo.

- 2. Any peace officer as defined in subdivision (3) of section 590.010, RSMo, any person working as an undercover officer of a law enforcement agency of this state, agents of a federal law enforcement agency, persons in witness protection programs, and victims of domestic violence and abuse who have received orders of protection pursuant to chapter 455, RSMo, shall be entitled to apply to the circuit court having jurisdiction in his or her county of residence to have the residential address on his or her voter registration records closed to the public if the release of such information could endanger the safety of the person. Any person working as an undercover agent or in a witness protection program shall also submit a statement from the chief executive officer of the agency under whose direction he or she is serving. The petition to close the residential address shall be incorporated into any petition for protective order provided by circuit clerks pursuant to chapter 455, RSMo. If satisfied that the person filing the petition meets the qualifications of this subsection, the circuit court shall issue an order to the election authority to keep the residential address of the voter a closed record and the address may be used only for the purposes of administering elections pursuant to this chapter. The election authority may require the voter who has a closed residential address record to verify that his or her residential address has not changed or to file a change of address and to affirm that the reasons contained in the original petition are still accurate prior to receiving a ballot. A change of address within an election authority's jurisdiction shall not require that the voter file a new petition. Any voter who no longer qualifies pursuant to this subsection to have his or her residential address as a closed record shall notify the circuit court. Upon such notification, the circuit court shall void the order closing the residential address and so notify the election authority.
- 115.160. 1. All Missouri driver's license applicants shall receive a voter registration application form as a simultaneous part of the application for a driver's license, renewal of driver's license, change of address, duplicate request and a nondriver's license.
- 2. If a single application form is used, the voter registration application portion of any application described in subsection 1 of this section may not require any information that

6 duplicates information required in the driver's license portion of the form, except a second 7 signature or other information required by law.

- 3. After conferring with the secretary of state as the chief state election official responsible for overseeing of the voter registration process, the director of revenue shall adopt rules and regulations pertaining to the format of the voter registration application used by the department.
- 4. No information relating to the failure of an applicant for a driver's license or nondriver's license to sign a voter registration application may be used for any purpose other than voter registration.
- 5. Any voter registration application received pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be forwarded to the election authority located within that county or any city not within a county, or if there is more than one election authority within the county, then to the election authority located nearest to the location where the driver's license application was received. The election authority receiving the application forms shall review the applications and forward any applications pertaining to a different election authority to that election authority.
- 6. A completed voter registration application accepted in the driver's licensing process shall be transmitted to the election authority described in subsection 5 of this section [not later than ten days after the date of acceptance or if the voter registration application is accepted within five days before the last day for registration to vote in an election, the application shall be transmitted to the election authority described in subsection 5 of this section] not later than five **business** days after the [date of acceptance] **form is completed by the applicant**.
- 115.162. 1. A voter registration application shall be provided by the secretary of state in all offices of the state that provide public assistance, all offices that provide state-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities, and other offices as directed by the governor. In addition all armed forces recruitment offices shall be considered a voter registration agency.
  - 2. At each voter registration agency, the following services shall be made available:
- (1) Assistance to applicants in completing voter registration application forms, unless the applicant refuses such assistance;
- 9 (2) Acceptance of completed voter registration application forms for transmittal to the election authority located in the same county or any city not within a county, or if there is more than one election authority within the county, to the election authority nearest to the office of the agency. The election authority receiving the application forms shall review the applications and forward any applications pertaining to a different election authority to that election authority. Forms shall be transmitted as soon as possible and according to dates established by the state election authority;

(3) Voter registration sites shall transmit voter registration application forms to the appropriate election authority not later than five business days after the form is completed by the applicant.

- (4) If a voter registration agency provides services to a person with a disability at the person's home, the agency shall provide the services provided in this section at the person's home.
- 3. An applicant declining to register in any agency shall be noted in a declination section incorporated into the voter registration form used by the agency. No information relating to a declination to register to vote in connection with an application made at a voter registration agency may be used for any purpose other than voter registration.
- [4. Subject to the approval of the secretary of state, the voter registration agency shall adopt rules and regulations pertaining to the format of a voter registration application to be used by that agency.]
- 115.163. 1. Each election authority shall arrange one set of registration cards into permanent binders for each precinct, or it may authorize the creation of computerized lists for each precinct. The computerized lists or binder shall be arranged alphabetically or by street address as the election authority determines and shall be known as the "precinct register". At least one set of registration cards shall be arranged in a central file in such a manner as the election authority determines, and shall be known as the "headquarters register". The election authority shall be the custodian of the registration records, and no cards or records shall be removed or handled except at its direction and under its supervision. The precinct registers shall be kept by the election authority in a secure place, except when given to election judges for use at an election. **Except as provided in subsection 2 of section 115.157**, all registration records shall be open to inspection by the public at all reasonable times.
  - 2. In counties using computer printouts as precinct registers, a new computer printout shall be printed prior to each election.
  - 3. In those counties using computer printouts as precinct registers, the election authority shall send to each voter a voter identification card not less than ninety days prior to the primary election in each year in which a primary and general election will be held, unless the voter has received such a card during the preceding six months or unless the election authority, in the year preceding the election of state auditor, has canvassed the voter registration records through the use of postal service contractors under the federal National Change of Address program. The voter identification card shall contain the voter's name, address, precinct and a signature line. The card may also contain other voting information at the discretion of the election authority. The voter shall be instructed to sign the card for use as identification at the polls. The voter identification card shall be sent to a voter after a new registration or a change

of address. If any voter shall lose [his] the voter identification card [he] the voter may request

- 25 a new one from the election authority. The voter identification card authorized pursuant to this
- 26 section may be used as a canvass of voters in lieu of the provisions set out in sections 115.179
- 27 to 115.193. Except as provided in subsection 2 of section 115.157, anyone, upon request and
- 28 payment of a reasonable fee, may obtain a printout, list and/or computer tape of those newly
- 29 registered voters or voters deleted from the voting rolls, since the last canvass or updating of the
- 30 rolls. The election authority may authorize the use of the postal service contractors under
- 31 the federal National Change of Address program to identify those voters whose address is
- 32 not correct on the voter registration records. The election authority shall not be required
- 33 to mail a voter registration card to those voters whose addresses are incorrect.
- 115.225. 1. Before use by election authorities in this state, the secretary of state shall approve the marking devices and the automatic tabulating equipment used in electronic voting systems and may promulgate rules and regulations to implement the intent of sections 115.225 to 115.235.
  - 2. No electronic voting system shall be approved unless it:
- 6 (1) Permits voting in absolute secrecy;

5

11

12

13

14

17

18

19

22

23

24

- 7 (2) Permits each voter to vote for as many candidates for each office as [he] **the voter** 8 is lawfully entitled to vote for;
- 9 (3) Permits each voter to vote for or against as many questions as [he] **the voter** is lawfully entitled to vote on, and no more;
  - (4) Provides facilities for each voter to cast as many write-in votes for each office as [he] **the voter** is lawfully entitled to cast;
  - (5) Permits each voter at a general election to vote for all candidates of one party by one punch or mark or to vote a split ticket, as [he] **the voter** desires;
- 15 (6) Permits each voter in a primary election to vote for the candidates of only one party 16 announced by the voter in advance;
  - (7) Permits each voter at a presidential election to vote by use of a single punch or mark for the candidates of one party or group of petitioners for president, vice president and their presidential electors;
- 20 (8) Accurately counts all proper votes cast for each candidate and for and against each question;
  - (9) Is set to reject all votes, except write-in votes, for any office and on any question when the number of votes exceeds the number a voter is lawfully entitled to cast;
    - (10) Permits each voter, while voting, to clearly see the ballot label.
- 3. [No rule or portion of a rule promulgated under the authority of this section shall become effective unless it has been promulgated pursuant to the provisions of section 536.024,

29

30 31

32

33

35

36

13

14

15

27 RSMo.] The secretary of state shall promulgate rules and regulations to allow the use of a computerized voting system.

4. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028, RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2002, shall be invalid and void.

115.233. Within [five] **fourteen** days prior to an election at which an electronic voting system is to be used, the election authority shall have the automatic tabulating equipment tested to ascertain that the equipment is in compliance with the law and that it will correctly count the votes cast for all offices and on all questions. At least forty-eight hours prior to the test, notice of the time and place of the test shall be mailed to each independent and new party candidate and the chairman of the county committee of each established political party named on the ballot. The test shall be observed by at least two persons designated by the election authority, one from each major political party, and shall be open to representatives of the political parties, candidates, the news media and the public. The test shall be conducted by processing a preaudited group of ballots. If any error is detected, the cause shall be ascertained and corrected, and an errorless count shall be made before the tabulating equipment is approved.

115.237. 1. Each ballot printed or designed for use with a computerized voting system for any election [under the provisions of sections 115.001 to 115.641] pursuant to this chapter, shall contain all questions and the names of all offices and candidates certified or filed pursuant to [sections 115.001 to 115.641] this chapter and no other. As far as practicable, all 4 questions and the names of all offices and candidates for which each voter is entitled to vote shall be printed on one page except for the ballot for political party committee persons in polling places not utilizing an electronic voting system which may be printed separately and in conformity with the requirements contained in this section. As far as practicable, ballots containing only questions and the names of nonpartisan offices and candidates shall be printed in accordance with the provisions of this section, except that the ballot information may be listed 10 in vertical or horizontal rows. The names of candidates for each office shall be listed in the order 11 12 in which they are filed.

- 2. Each ballot shall be plain paper, through which printing or writing cannot be read, **or electronically designed for use with a computerized voting system,** and shall have:
  - (1) Each party name printed in capital letters not less than eighteen point in size;

- 16 (2) A circle one-half inch in diameter immediately below each party name;
- 17 (3) The name of each office printed in capital letters not less than eight point in size;
  - (4) The name of each candidate printed in capital letters not less than ten point in size;
- 19 (5) A small square, the sides of which shall not be less than one-fourth inch in length, 20 printed directly to the left of each candidate's name and on the same line as the candidate's name. 21 When write-in votes are authorized and no candidate's name is to be printed under the name of 22 an office in a party or nonpartisan column, under the name of the office in the column shall be 23 printed a square. Directly to the right of the square shall be printed a horizontal line on which
- 24 the voter may vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot. When more than one
- 25 position is to be filled for an office, and the number of candidates' names under the office in a
- 26 column is less than the number of positions to be filled, the number of squares and write-in lines
- 27 printed in the column shall equal the difference between the number of candidates' names and
- 28 the number of positions to be filled;

18

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37 38

39

40

41 42

43 44

- (6) The list of candidates of each party and all nonpartisan candidates placed in separate columns with a heavy vertical line between each list;
- (7) A horizontal line extending across the ballot three-eighths of an inch below the last name or write-in line under each office in such a manner that the names of all candidates and all write-in lines for the same office appear between the same horizontal lines. If write-in votes are not authorized, the horizontal line shall extend across the ballot three-eighths of an inch below the name of the last candidate under each office;
- (8) In a separate column or beneath a heavy horizontal line under all names and write-in lines, all questions;
- (9) At least three-eighths of an inch below all other matter on the ballot, printed in ten point Gothic type, the words "Instructions to Voters" followed by directions to the voter on marking [his] **the** ballot as provided in section 115.439;
- (10) Printed at the top on the face of the ballot the words "Official Ballot" followed by the date of the election and the statement "Instruction to Voters: Place an X in the square opposite the name of the person for whom you wish to vote."
  - 3. As nearly as practicable, each ballot shall be in substantially the following form:

45	OFFICIAL BALLOT			DATE
46	REPUBLICAN	DEMOCRATIC	THIRD PARTY	INDEPENDENT
47	O	O	O	0
48	For President	For President	For President	For President
49	and	and	and	and
50	Vice President	Vice President	Vice President	Vice President
51	[]	[]	[]	[]

52	For	For	For	For
53	United States	<b>United States</b>	<b>United States</b>	<b>United States</b>
54	Senator	Senator	Senator	Senator
55	[]	[]	[]	[]
56	For Governor	For Governor	For Governor	For Governor
57	[]	[]	[]	[]
58	For Lieutenant	For Lieutenant	For Lieutenant	For Lieutenant
59	Governor	Governor	Governor	Governor
60	[]	[]	[]	[]
61	For Secretary	For Secretary	For Secretary	For Secretary
62	of State	of State	of State	of State
63	[]	[]	[]	[]
64	For Treasurer	For Treasurer	For Treasurer	For Treasurer
65	[]	[]	[]	[]
66	For Attorney	For Attorney	For Attorney	For Attorney
67	General	General	General	General
68	[]	[]	[]	[]
69	For	For	For	For
70	United States	<b>United States</b>	<b>United States</b>	<b>United States</b>
71	Representative	Representative	Representative	Representative
72	[]	[]	[]	[]
73	For State	For State	For State	For State
74	Senator	Senator	Senator	Senator
75	[]	[]	[]	[]
76	For State	For State	For State	For State
77	Representative	Representative	Representative	Representative
78	[]	[]	[]	[]
79	For Circuit	For Circuit	For Circuit	For Circuit
80	Judge	Judge	Judge	Judge
81	[]	[]	[]	[]

115.277. 1. Except as provided in subsections 3, 4 and 5 of this section, any registered voter of this state may vote by absentee ballot for all candidates and issues for which such voter

- 3 would be eligible to vote at the polling place if such voter expects to be prevented from going
- 4 to the polls to vote on election day due to:
- 5 (1) Absence on election day from the jurisdiction of the election authority in which such
- 6 voter is registered to vote;

- 7 (2) Incapacity or confinement due to illness or physical disability;
- 8 (3) Religious belief or practice;

11

14

15

17 18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

4

- 9 (4) Employment as an election authority, as a member of an election authority, or by an election authority at a location other than such voter's polling place;
  - (5) Incarceration, provided all qualifications for voting are retained; or
- 12 (6) A person who is primarily responsible for the physical care of a person who is 13 incapacitated or confined due to illness or disability.
  - 2. Any person in federal service, as defined in section 115.275, who is eligible to register and vote in any election in this state may vote in the election even if the person is not registered. Each person in federal service may vote by absentee ballot or, upon submitting an affidavit that the person is qualified to vote in the election, may vote at the person's polling place.
  - 3. Any interstate former resident, as defined in section 115.275, may vote by absentee ballot for presidential and vice presidential electors.
  - 4. Any intrastate new resident, as defined in section 115.275, may vote by absentee ballot at the election for presidential and vice presidential electors, United States senator, representative in Congress, statewide elected officials and statewide questions, propositions and amendments from such resident's new jurisdiction of residence after registering to vote in such resident's new jurisdiction of residence.
  - 5. Any new resident, as defined in section 115.275, may vote by absentee ballot for presidential and vice presidential electors after registering to vote in such resident's new jurisdiction of residence.
  - 115.279. 1. Application for an absentee ballot may be made by the applicant in person, or by mail, or for the applicant, in person, by his or her guardian or a relative within the second degree by consanguinity or affinity. The election authority [may] **shall** accept applications by facsimile transmission [at its discretion and] within the limits of its telecommunications capacity.
- 5 2. Each application shall be made to the election authority of the jurisdiction in which the person is or would be registered. Each application shall be in writing and shall state the applicant's name, address at which he or she is or would be registered, his or her reason for voting an absentee ballot and the address to which the ballot is to be mailed, if mailing is requested. Each application to vote in a primary election shall also state which ballot the applicant wishes to receive. If any application fails to designate a ballot, the election authority 10 shall, within three working days after receiving the application, notify the applicant by mail that 11 it will be unable to deliver an absentee ballot until the applicant designates which political party 13 ballot he or she wishes to receive. If the applicant does not respond to the request for political party designation, the election authority is authorized to provide the voter with that part of the 15 ballot for which no political party designation is required.

- 3. All applications for absentee ballots received prior to the sixth Tuesday before an election shall be stored at the office of the election authority until such time as the applications are processed in accordance with section 115.281. No application for an absentee ballot received in the office of the election authority by mail, by facsimile transmission or by a guardian or relative after 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday immediately prior to the election shall be accepted by any election authority. No application for an absentee ballot submitted by the applicant in person after 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election shall be accepted by any election authority, except as provided in subsections 6, 8 and 9 of this section.
- 4. Each application for an absentee ballot shall be signed by the applicant or, if the application is made by a guardian or relative pursuant to the provisions of this section, the application shall be signed by the guardian or relative, who shall note on the application his or her relationship to the applicant. If an applicant, guardian or relative is blind, unable to read or write the English language or physically incapable of signing the application, he or she shall sign by mark, witnessed by the signature of an election official or person of his or her own choosing. Any person who knowingly makes, delivers or mails a fraudulent absentee ballot application shall be guilty of a class one election offense.
- 5. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any resident of the state of Missouri who resides outside the boundaries of the United States or who is on active duty with the armed forces of the United States or members of their immediate family living with them may request an absentee ballot for both the primary and subsequent general election with one application.
- 6. An application for an absentee ballot by a new resident, as defined in section 115.275, shall be submitted in person by the applicant in the office of the election authority in the election jurisdiction in which such applicant resides. The application shall be received by the election authority no later than 7:00 p.m. on the day of the election. Such application shall be in the form of an affidavit, executed in duplicate in the presence of the election authority or any authorized officer of the election authority, and in substantially the following form:

40	of an affidavit, executed in duplicate in the presence of the election authority or any authorized
41	officer of the election authority, and in substantially the following form:
42	"STATE OF
43	COUNTY OF, ss.
44	I,, do solemnly swear that:
45	(1) Before becoming a resident of this state, I resided at (residence address)
46	in (town, township, village or city) of County in the state of
47	;
48	(2) I moved to this state after the last day to register to vote in such general presidential
49	election and I am now residing in the county of, state of Missouri;

(3) I believe I am entitled pursuant to the laws of this state to vote in the presidential election to be held November ...... (year);

52	(4) I hereby make application for a presidential and vice presidential ballot. I have not
53	voted and shall not vote other than by this ballot at such election.
54	Signed
55	(Applicant)
56	
57	(Residence Address)
58	Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of,
59	Signed
60	(Title and name of officer authorized to administer oaths)"
61	7. The election authority in whose office an application is filed pursuant to subsection
62	6 of this section shall immediately send a duplicate of such application to the appropriate official
63	of the state in which the new resident applicant last resided and shall file the original of such
64	application in its office.
65	8. An application for an absentee ballot by an intrastate new resident, as defined in
66	section 115.275, shall be made in person by the applicant in the office of the election authority
67	in the election jurisdiction in which such applicant resides. The application shall be received by
68	the election authority no later than 7:00 p.m. on the day of the election. Such application shall
69	be in the form of an affidavit, executed in duplicate in the presence of the election authority or
70	an authorized officer of the election authority, and in substantially the following form:
71	"STATE OF
72	COUNTY OF, ss.
73	I,, do solemnly swear that:
74	(1) Before becoming a resident of this election jurisdiction, I resided at
75	(residence address) in (town, township, village or city) of county in the
76	state of;
77	(2) I moved to this election jurisdiction after the last day to register to vote in such
78	election;
79	(3) I believe I am entitled pursuant to the laws of this state to vote in the election to be
80	held(date);
81	(4) I hereby make application for an absentee ballot for candidates and issues on which
82	I am entitled to vote pursuant to the laws of this state. I have not voted and shall not vote other
83	than by this ballot at such election.
84	Signed
85	(Applicant)
86	
87	(Residence Address)

88	Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of,		
89	Signed		
90	(Title and name of officer authorized to administer oaths)"		
91	9. An application for an absentee ballot by an interstate former resident, as defined in		
92	section 115.275, shall be received in the office of the election authority where the applicant was		
93	formerly registered by 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday immediately prior to the election, unless the		
94	application is made in person by the applicant in the office of the election authority, in which		
95	case, such application shall be made no later than 7:00 p.m. on the day of the election.		
	115.283. 1. Each ballot envelope shall bear a statement on which the voter shall state		
2	the voter's name, the voter's voting address, the voter's mailing address and the voter's reason for		
3	voting an absentee ballot. On the form, the voter shall also state, under penalties of perjury that		
4	the voter is qualified to vote in the election, that the voter has not previously voted and will not		
5	vote again in the election, that the voter has personally marked the voter's ballot in secret or		
6	supervised the marking of the voter's ballot if the voter is unable to mark it, that the ballot has		
7	been placed in the ballot envelope and sealed by the voter or under the voter's supervision if the		
8	voter is unable to seal it, and that all information contained in the statement is true. In addition,		
9	any person providing assistance to the absentee voter shall include a statement on the envelope		
10	$identifying \ the \ person \ providing \ assistance \ under \ penalties \ of \ perjury. \ Persons \ authorized \ to \ vote$		
11	only for federal and statewide officers shall also state their former Missouri residence.		
12	2. The statement for persons voting absentee ballots who are registered voters shall be		
13	in substantially the following form:		
14	State of Missouri		
15	County (City) of		
16	I, (print name), a registered voter of County		
17	(City of St. Louis, Kansas City), declare under the penalties of perjury that I expect to be		
18	prevented from going to the polls on election day due to (check one):		
19	absence on election day from the jurisdiction of the election authority in which I am		
20	registered;		
21	incapacity or confinement due to illness or physical disability;		
22	religious belief or practice;		
23	employment as an election authority or by an election authority at a location other than		
24	my polling place;		
25	incarceration, although I have retained all the necessary qualifications for voting;		
26	caring for a person who is incapacitated or confined due to illness or disability.		
27			
28	I hereby state under penalties of perjury that I am qualified to vote at this election; I have not		

29	voted and will not vote other than by this	ballot at this election. I further state that I marked the	
30	enclosed ballot in secret or that I am blind, unable to read or write English, or physically		
31	incapable of marking the ballot, and the	person of my choosing indicated below marked the	
32	ballot at my direction; all of the informa	tion on this statement is, to the best of my knowledge	
33	and belief, true.		
34			
35	Signature of Voter	Signature of Person	
36		Assisting Voter	
37		(if applicable)	
38		Subscribed and sworn to	
39		before me this day	
40	Address of Voter	of	
41			
42			
43	Mailing addresses	Signature of notary or	
44	(if different)	other officer authorized	
45		to administer oaths	
46	3. The statement for persons v	oting absentee ballots pursuant to the provisions of	
47	subsection 2, 3, 4 or 5 of section 115.277 without being registered shall be in substantially the		
48	following form:		
49	State of Missouri		
50	County (City) of		
51	I, (print name), declare under the penalties of perjury that I am a citizen of the		
52	United States and eighteen years of age or older. I am not adjudged incapacitated by any court		
53	of law, and if I have been convicted of a felony or of a misdemeanor connected with the right of		
54	suffrage, I have had the voting disabilities resulting from such conviction removed pursuant to		
55	law. I hereby state under penalties of pe	rjury that I am qualified to vote at this election.	
56	(1) I am a resident of the state of	Missouri and (check one):	
57	am a member of the U.S. armed	forces in active service;	
58	am an active member of the U.S.	merchant marine;	
59	am a civilian employee of the U.	S. government working outside the United States;	
60	am an active member of a religion	ous or welfare organization assisting servicemen;	
61	have been honorably discharged o	r terminated my service in one of the groups mentioned	
62	above within sixty days of this el	ection;	
63	am a spouse or dependent of one	of the above;	
64	am a registered voter in	County and moved from that county to	

65	County, Missouri, after the last day to register to vote in this election.		
66	OR (check if applicable)		
67	(2) I am an interstate former resident of Missouri and authorized to vote		
68			
69	have not voted and will not vote other than by this ballot at this election; I marked the enclosed		
70	ballot in secret or am blind, unable to read or write English, or physically incapable of marking		
71	the ballot, and the person of my choosing indicated below marked the ballot at my direction; al		
72	of the information on this statement is, to t	he best of my knowledge and belief, true.	
73		Subscribed to and sworn	
74	Signature of Voter	before me this day	
75		of	
76			
77			
78	Address of Voter	Signature of notary or	
79		other officer authorized	
80		to administer oaths	
81			
82			
83	Mailing Address		
84	(if different)		
85			
86	Signature of Person	Address of Last Missouri	
87	7 Assisting Voter Residence (if applicable)		
88	4. The statement for persons voting absentee ballots who are entitled to vote at the		
89	election pursuant to the provisions of subse	ection 2 of section 115.137 shall be in substantially	
90	the following form:		
91	State of Missouri		
92	County (City) of		
93	I, (print name), de	eclare under the penalties of perjury that I expect to	
94	be prevented from going to the polls on election day due to (check one):		
95	absence on election day from the j	urisdiction of the election authority in which I am	
96	directed to vote;		
97	incapacity or confinement due to illness or physical disability;		
98	religious belief or practice;		
99	employment as an election authorit	y or by an election authority at a location other than	
100	my polling place;		

ng;		
oility.		
ct and am		
ballot at		
d, unable		
on of my		
n on this		
all be in		
substantially the following form:  The voter needed assistance in marking the ballot and signing above, because of blindness, other		
ed in this		
no other		
rmed the ner voter		
iei votei		
ess, ed i no		

143

144

145

146

147

9

11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24

25

137 6. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, any resident of the state of 138 Missouri who resides outside the boundaries of the United States or who is on active duty with 139 the armed forces of the United States or members of their immediate family living with them or 140 persons who have declared themselves to be permanently disabled pursuant to section 115.284, 141 otherwise entitled to vote, shall not be required to obtain a notary seal or signature on his or her 142 absentee ballot.

7. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or section 115.291 to the contrary, the subscription, signature and seal of a notary or other officer authorized to administer oaths shall not be required on any ballot, ballot envelope, or statement required by this section if the reason for the voter voting absentee is due to [illness or physical disability] the reasons established pursuant to subdivisions (2) and (6) of subsection 1 of section 115.277.

115.291. 1. Upon receiving an absentee ballot, the voter shall mark [his] the ballot in secret, place the ballot in the ballot envelope, seal the envelope and fill out the statement on the ballot envelope. The affidavit of each person voting an absentee ballot shall be subscribed and 4 sworn to before the election official receiving the ballot, a notary public or other officer authorized by law to administer oaths, unless the voter is voting absentee due to incapacity or confinement due to the provisions of section 115.284, illness or physical disability. If the voter is blind, unable to read or write the English language, or physically incapable of voting [his] the ballot, [he] the voter may be assisted by a person of [his] the voter's own choosing. Any person assisting a voter who is not entitled to such assistance, and any person who assists a voter and in any manner coerces or initiates a request or a suggestion that the voter vote for or against or refrain from voting on any question, ticket or candidate, shall be guilty of a class one election offense. If, upon counting, challenge or election contest, it is ascertained that any absentee ballot was voted with unlawful assistance, the ballot shall be rejected.

- 2. Each absentee ballot shall be returned to the election authority in the ballot envelope and shall only be returned by the voter in person, or in person by a relative of the voter who is within the first degree of consanguinity or affinity, by mail or registered carrier or by a team of deputy election authorities; except that persons in federal service, when sent from a location determined by the secretary of state to be inaccessible on election day, shall be allowed to return their absentee ballots cast by use of facsimile transmission or under a program approved by the Department of Defense for electronic transmission of election materials.
- 3. In cases of an emergency declared by the President of the United States or the governor of this state where the conduct of an election may be affected, the secretary of state may provide for the delivery and return of absentee ballots by use of a facsimile transmission device or system. Any rule promulgated pursuant to this subsection shall apply to a class or classes of

26 voters as provided for by the secretary of state.

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11 12

13

1415

16

3

115.409. Except election authority personnel, election judges, watchers and challengers appointed pursuant to section 115.105 or 115.107, law enforcement officials at the request of election officials or in the line of duty, minor children under the age of eighteen accompanying an adult who is in the process of voting, international observers who have registered as such 5 with the election authority, persons designated by the election authority to administer a simulated youth election for persons ineligible to vote because of their age, members of the news 7 media who present identification satisfactory to the election judges and who are present only for the purpose of bona fide news coverage except as provided in subdivision (18) of section 8 115.637, provided that such coverage does not disclose how any voter cast [his] the voter's ballot on any question or candidate or in the case of a primary election on which party ballot they 10 voted or does not interfere with the general conduct of the election as determined by the election 11 judges or election authority, and registered voters who are eligible to vote at the polling place, 12 13 no person shall be admitted to a polling place.

- 115.417. 1. Before the time fixed by law for the opening of the polls, the election authority shall deliver to each polling place a sufficient number of voter instruction cards which include the following information:
- (1) If paper ballots or an electronic voting system is used, the instructions shall inform the voter on how to obtain a ballot for voting, how to vote and prepare the ballot for deposit in the ballot box and how to obtain a new ballot to replace one accidentally spoiled;
- (2) If voting machines are used, the instructions shall inform the voter how to operate the machine in such a manner that [he] **the voter** may vote as [he] **the voter** wishes.
- 2. The election authority at each polling place shall post in a conspicuous place voting instructions on a poster no smaller than twenty-four inches by thirty inches. Such instructions shall also inform the voter that the voting equipment can be demonstrated upon request of the voter.
- **3.** If marking devices or voting machines are used, the election authority shall also provide to each polling place a model of a marking device or portion of the face of a voting machine. If requested to do so by a voter, the election judges shall give instructions on operation of the marking device or voting machine by use of the model.
- 115.420. 1. An election authority operating a voting system that uses ballot cards shall not use a butterfly ballot unless the secretary of state provides written approval to the election authority for the use of a butterfly ballot in the particular election.
- 2. For purposes of this section, "butterfly ballot" means a ballot where two ballot pages are used side by side and where voters must vote on candidates or issues on both sides of the pages.

7

8

11

12

13

14

3

4

5

7

8

9

10 11

13

14

15

16

3. The secretary of state may approve the use of a butterfly ballot in a particular election when a large number of candidates and issues are to be decided, no alternative ballot is reasonable under the circumstances, and the election authority submits to the 9 10 secretary of state a written explanation of the need for using a butterfly ballot.

115.433. After the voter's identification certificate has been initialed, two judges of different political parties, or one judge from a political party and one judge with no political **affiliation**, shall, where paper ballots or ballot cards are used, initial the voter's ballot or ballot card.

115.493. The election authority shall keep all voted ballots, ballot cards, processed ballot materials in electronic form and write-in forms, and all applications, statements, certificates, affidavits and computer programs relating to each election for twelve months after the date of the election. During the time that voted ballots, ballot cards, processed ballot materials in electronic form and write-in forms are kept by the election authority, it shall not open or inspect them or allow anyone else to do so, except upon order of a legislative body trying 7 an election contest, a court or a grand jury. After twelve months, the ballots, ballot cards, processed ballot materials in electronic form, write-in forms, applications, statements, certificates, affidavits and computer programs relating to each election may be destroyed. If an election contest, grand jury investigation or civil or criminal case relating to the election is 11 pending at the time, however, the materials shall not be destroyed until the contest, investigation 12 or case is finally determined.

- 115.613. 1. Except as provided in subsection 4 of this section, the qualified man and woman receiving the highest number of votes from each committee district for committeeman and committeewoman of a party shall be members of the county committee of the party.
- 2. If two or more qualified persons receive an equal number of votes for county committeeman or committeewoman of a party and a higher number of votes than any other qualified person from the party, a vacancy shall exist on the county committee which shall be filled by a majority of the committee in the manner provided in section 115.617.
- 3. If no qualified person is elected county committeeman or committeewoman from a committee district for a party, a vacancy shall exist on the county committee which shall be filled by a majority of the committee in the manner provided in section 115.617.
- 4. The provisions of this subsection shall apply only in any county where no filing fee is required for filing a declaration of candidacy for committeeman or committeewoman in a committee district. If only one qualified candidate has filed a declaration of candidacy for committeeman or committeewoman in a committee district for a party prior to the deadline established by law, no election shall be held for committeeman or committeewoman in the committee district for that party and the election authority shall certify the qualified

- 17 candidate in the same manner and at the same time as candidates elected pursuant to
- 18 subsection 1 of this section are certified. If no qualified candidate files for committeeman or
- 19 committee woman in a committee district for a party, no election shall be held and a vacancy shall
- 20 exist on the county committee which shall be filled by a majority of the committee in the manner
- 21 provided in section 115.617. [The state shall pay the cost of producing ballots for any election
- 22 held for the purposes of this subsection. The election authority shall pay all public notice costs
- 23 for any election held pursuant to this subsection.]

3

4

7

- 115.645. 1. For purposes of enforcing this chapter, the secretary of state shall investigate all violations of any provisions of this chapter in cases where:
- (1) The secretary of state determines a matter of statewide interest is adversely affected; or
- 5 (2) The secretary of state determines local law enforcement authorities are 6 unwilling or unable to investigate the matter; or
  - (3) The local election authority requests the secretary of state to investigate.
- 8 **2.** The secretary of state shall promulgate rules to effectuate the provisions of this 9 section.